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Sir Robert Falconer welcomed the association in admirable terms, and Professor E. H. Moore, of the University of Chicago, responded with felicity for the association. At the second general meeting, Dr. William Bateson, director of the John Innes Horticultural Institution at Merton, London, and present as the guest of the American Association and of the American Society of Zoologists, gave an address on "Evolutionary Faith and Modern Doubt," in which he argued that while the fact of evolution is not in question, the problems of the origin of species are still unsolved. Dr. Bateson paid a tribute to the "Stars that have arisen in the West," by whose work solutions have been found for many of the difficult problems of genetics, including the direct association of the chromosomes with the developing organism.

RESOLUTIONS OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION CONCERNING THE PUBLIC WELFARE

The National Academy of Sciences is by law the scientific adviser of the government, but the American Association and the associated scientific societies have equal responsibility, representing as they do the consensus of opinion of scientific men. It may be hoped that in the future the council of the association, composed largely of delegates from the associated national societies, may take an active part in enlightening public opinion and in guiding legislation on problems concerned with the advancement of science and its applications to the public welfare. At Toronto several resolutions looking in this direction were adopted by the council.

It put on record its opposition to any action by which the Forest Service or the National Forests of the United States or of Alaska would be removed from the jurisdiction of

the U. S. Department of Agriculture. The suspension of scientific periodicals issued by the government, such as the *Journal of Agricultural Research*, the *Experiment Station Record* and the *Monthly Weather Review*, was condemned. The introduction of non-native plants and animals into the national parks and all other unessential interference with natural conditions was opposed. A resolution declared that the American Association "recognizes the need and timeliness of fundamental research on the scientific principles which must underlie the formation, standardization and introduction of an international auxiliary language."

Noting that it had already affirmed its belief in the desirability of the adoption of the metric system by the United States, the council urged consideration by Congress of the metric bills before it.

The United States Commissioner of Fisheries having presented his resignation, the council went on record as emphasizing the prime importance of securing a man who possesses the special experience and scientific knowledge of the field, combined with the necessary administrative ability for discharging the duties of the position.

SCIENTIFIC ITEMS

We record with regret the death of Henry Turner Eddy, professor emeritus of mathematics and mechanics in the University of Minnesota and dean emeritus of the graduate school; of Dr. Howard B. Cross, of the Rockefeller Institute for Medical Research, of yellow fever while studying that disease at Vera Cruz; of Henrietta Swan Jewett, of the Harvard College Observatory; of Earl Jerome Grimes, associate professor of biology at the College of William and Mary, and of Max Verworn, professor of physiology at the University of Bonn.